GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2638
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
LOK ADALATS
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ruled out review of the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002, designed to establish permanent Lok Adalats as an additional forum to litigants for resolution of their disputes with certain public utility services;

(b) if so, whether these Adalats have been helpful in reducing the pending cases with the courts;

(c) whether keeping in view its importance and quick decision, the Government are now considering to have these Adalats permanently in almost all the States; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) There is no proposal to review the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002.

(b) Till the quarter ending 30.09.2002 the Lok Adalats have settled about 1.45 crore cases, thereby reducing the burden on courts. Similarly these permanent Lok Adalats are expected to help reduce the pendency further.

(c)&(d) Under Section 22B(1) the Central Authority or, as the case may be every State Authority shall by notification establish permanent Lok Adalats. All State Governments/UT Administrations, Chief Justices of High Court and the State Legal Services Authorities have already been requested to take necessary steps for setting up these permanent Lok Adalats.